

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /066 W

-----037340 250201Z/14

R 241546Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SCSTATE WASHDC 7567

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CONFIDENTIAL REYKJAVIK 1151

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IC

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER HALLGRIMSSON'S VISIT TO SOVIET UNION

REF: REYKJAVIK 1013

1. DURING CALL ON PRIME MINISTER GEIR HALLGRIMSSON THIS MORNING TO DISCUSS ANOTHER MATTER, I ASKED HIM WHETHER OFFICIAL VISIT TO SOVIET UNION, WHICH HE HAD BRIEFLY MENTIONED TO ME ON ANOTHER OCCASION AS PROBABLE, WAS NOW SET. THE PRIME MINISTER REPLIED THAT THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE VISIT WOULD PROBABLY BE MADE IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. HE SAID AN OFFICIAL VISIT WOULD TAKE PLACE SEPTEMBER 20-22 AND WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY FOUR OR FIVE DAYS OF UNOFFICIAL TRAVEL IN SOVIET UNION. PRIME MINISTER THEN SAID HE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY INFO I MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE WHICH WOULD BE

USEFUL TO HIM IN HIS MEETINGS WITH SOVIET LEADERSHIP. I SAID I WOULD INQUIRE OF DEPARTMENT AND WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH HIM FURTHER.

2. COMMENT: GIVEN ICELAND'S STRATEGIC LOCATION AND
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PRESENCE HERE OF LARGE AMERICAN-MANNED NATO FACILITY, RUSSIANS HAVE SPECIAL INTEREST IN REMINDING ICELANDERS OF SOVIET UNION'S WEIGHT AND IMPORTANCE IN AREA.; (MEASURE OF RUSSIAN INTEREST IS SIZE OF SOVIET MBASSY WHOSE STAFF, PROBABLY INCLUDING WORKING DEPENDENTS, ALL RUSSIAN, IS ESTIMATED AT WELL OVER 60). ACCORDINGLY,

INSIGHTS WE COULD PROVIDE PRIME MINISTER ON ISSUES
SOVIETS ARE LIKELY TO RAISE WITH HIM, PRESENT SOVIET
LEADERSHIP, AND PRESENT STATE U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS
WOULD, I AM SURE, BE MOST WELCOME TO HIM. HE IS, OF
COURSE, STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF ICELAND'S NATO CONNECTION

AND STRONG U.S.
ICELAND BILATERAL RELATIONS. I WOULD THEREFORE
APPRECIATE ANY BACKGROUND DEPARTMENT MAY WISH PROVIDE
FOR HIS USE.
BLAKE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decapton Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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